Collecting MIT History Beyond the Infinite Corridor

(Left) Palazzo Riccardi, Firenze, as measured and drawn in 1921 by Rotch Traveling Scholarship recipient, Robert M. Blackall. (Below Left) The House of Dona Marta La Brana at Salamanca drawn ca. 1923-25 by Rotch Traveling Scholarship recipient, Isidor Richmond. Both images are from the Rotch Traveling Scholarship Collection, MC 520, Institute Archives and Special Collections. Photographs by L. Barry Hetherington.

Since its establishment in 1961, a major aim of the Institute Archives and Special Collections has been to fully and richly document MIT history. While half of the Archives’ collections are transferred directly from MIT offices, others are acquired by personal donation. Faculty papers represent the largest group of such personal collections; many faculty, interested in furthering the documentation of life at, and of, the Institute, make a gift of their papers upon retirement.

A lesser known fact is that representatives of organizations that functioned outside the corridors of the Institute often can donate their MIT-related records to the Institute Archives as well. Two collections processed during this past academic year, The Rotch Traveling Scholarship Collection (1884-1996) and The Science...
From the Director

Friends, it is said, are like porch pillars. Sometimes you need them to lean on. Sometimes it’s enough just to know they are standing by.

The MIT Libraries have had staunch friends to lean on since their very beginnings in 1865. The Institute’s first library consisted of seventy-five volumes, all donated from the personal collections of the original, half-dozen members of the faculty.

Subsequent years produced generous donations of the library collections of early MIT luminaries such as President William Barton Rogers, Corporation Members Theodore N. Vail and Thomas Gaffield, and Professor Louis Derr. As time went on, gifts of funds would augment these and other collections. In more recent years, scores of friends and faculty (including the Libraries’ enthusiastic supporter, the late Professor Gian-Carlo Rota) have donated many more contemporary collections of materials.

Friends have also supported the construction and renovation of MIT Libraries’ facilities. In 1950, for example, the Charles Hayden Foundation made possible the construction of the Building 14 Libraries. In 1970 James M. Barker, MIT alumnus and member of the Corporation, funded the renovation of the Barker Engineering Library. More recently, the insightful generosity of Cherry and Mary Emerson made possible the renovation and expansion of the Lewis Music Library.

Endowed funds and annual gifts round out the Libraries’ litany of appreciation for its friends. MIT Libraries’ memorial funds have long been an enduring means to honor or memorialize a family member, mentor, or friend. Over the years, endowed funds have made a significant difference in the Libraries’ ability to enrich the intellectual and cultural resources made available to faculty and students at MIT. Endowed funds, in particular, have given the MIT Libraries the essential edge that lifts a library from “good” to “excellent” in collections and services.

In this issue of MIT Libraries’ News, we recognize and applaud the many helpful contributions of the Libraries’ friends over the last five years. Their generosity is a pillar of support to the excellence of the MIT Libraries. Why have our friends donated to the Libraries? The reasons are as diverse as the donors themselves.

• Some give to the MIT Libraries because they want to make a difference— for an academic program, for undergraduate students, for a professor’s research support, or for others who will benefit from their gift.

• Some give because they want to create a memorial to someone they love, such as a parent, sibling, or spouse, by naming a collection, a building, or even a room in a library for them.

• Some give because they have an intense interest in a particular subject (such as music or poetry) or discipline (such as physics or writing) and want to see it endure and prosper at MIT.

• Some give because they are grateful for what the MIT Libraries meant to them, or did for them, and they want to give back.

• Others give because they believe in the enduring value of libraries, or because they want to challenge others to support the libraries, or because their class supports the libraries, or because the MIT Libraries design handsome book plates.

The MIT Libraries are deeply grateful to all their friends, no matter what their reasons for giving. We thank them for their support for these extraordinary Libraries, and for their confidence in the future. It is great to know that they, like porch pillars, are standing by for us, and can be leaned upon when we need them.

Ann J. Wolpert, Director of Libraries
(617) 253-5297, awolpert@mit.edu
Collecting MIT History Beyond the Infinite Corridor, Cont.

The Rohr Traveling Scholarship Collection was placed in the Institute Archives by the national design practice of Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott in 1998. The collection documents the history of this competitive travel scholarship for young Massachusetts architects through records of the trustees, the scholarship competition, travel documentation and sketches, and biographical materials of remarkable quality and interest. The scholarship was established in 1883 by Arthur Rohr (who endowed the Rohr Architecture Library) and his siblings in honor of their father, Benjamin Smith Rohr. With the exception of the periods of the two world wars, the Rohr scholarship has been awarded annually since 1884. Numerous award winners, such as Gordon Bunshaft and Louis Skidmore, have had a connection to MIT.

Dean William Emerson of the School of Architecture wrote in 1938 that the Rohr scholarship “expressed the realization of the value of foreign travel and actual acquaintance with the great buildings of the past (rather than merely with their photographs) both to stimulate the creative imagination of young architects, and to enrich their cultural knowledge.” The collection would be of use to those interested in studying influences on select architects of the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, architectural travel writing, the history of American architecture, and the history of the Rohr family.

By contrast, the Science for the People Collection represents a brief, but no less fascinating, moment in time in the late twentieth century. The collection, donated by Dr. Jonathan Beckwith, documents the activities of a group of scientists and students, among them members of the MIT community, who were involved in educational and political work critical of the scientific establishment, and of the Vietnam War. Originally named Scientists and Engineers for Social and Political Action, the group developed from one with an anti-war focus to one seeking broad and radical change in the scientific community, appealing especially for the inclusion of women and those outside the academic/scientific community in policy and decision-making. Researchers will find especially rich documentation on the founding of the group and their magazine, Science for the People.

The Archives is always on the lookout for appropriate collections to fill gaps in the MIT record. Those with leads can reach the staff by phone at: (617) 253-5136 or by e-mail at: mithistory@mit.edu.

Megan Sniffen-Marinoff
Head, Institute Archives and Special Collections
(617) 253-5688, msniffen@mit.edu
DSpace: Sharing MIT’s Intellectual Output

In a downstairs room of the Barker Engineering Library a small team of MIT and Hewlett-Packard developers has embarked upon an exciting project that has as its goal to capture, store, and make available the digital intellectual output of MIT. In March, the Libraries announced the Hewlett-Packard Company’s funding of this joint project to build a scalable, sustainable digital repository for articles, technical reports, datasets, images, and other research products in digital form produced by MIT faculty and researchers. “As MIT’s intellectual heritage makes its way into electronic form, the library must take responsibility for capturing those documents that will form the foundation of tomorrow’s scholarship,” said Ann Wolpert, Director of the MIT Libraries.

Soon after the announcement of the $1.8 million project, the Libraries were awarded an additional $215,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in support of the development of an economic plan and business model to sustain DSpace beyond its time as a research project.

Digital repositories are not new to the academic community, but what is different and experimental about DSpace are the plans for adding features to enhance the flexibility and usefulness of the repository, such as access control, rights management, version management, community feedback and flexible publishing capabilities. The DSpace team hopes to cooperate with other academic institutions developing similar projects, and plans to use software, methods and data models that can easily be shared with other universities worldwide.

In order to accommodate the broad scope of the content, which will encompass all research disciplines at MIT, DSpace will be organized into distinct ‘realms’. These realms may be built around academic departments, research labs and centers, or around a particular data type, such as biomedical images or geospatial datasets. Each realm will be able to set its own policies and procedures concerning contributions and access to DSpace material. This approach will also make it possible for DSpace to accommodate the individual metadata requirements of each realm.

Another feature of DSpace will be a simple yet controlled submission process that gives each realm the ability to develop its own vetting system to control which publications are to be included in the repository. Similarly, there will be an access control mechanism built into the repository that allows each realm to control who will have access to its documents. It will also be possible to change these restrictions over time. For example, a document may be visible only to a select few reviewers or sponsors for a limited time until it is approved for wider access. Additional restrictions may be attached to certain documents; for instance, MIT Press or the Virtual Thesis Library may restrict printing of their DSpace documents until they receive payment. A mechanism for associating these rights (or restrictions) with the documents and rigorously enforcing them will be an important part of the DSpace project.

The diversity of DSpace content, encompassing many subject disciplines and data formats, offers developers an opportunity to explore the issues surrounding the incorporation of different metadata standards within one system. Some of the more common uses of metadata are: to facilitate retrieval of documents (title, author, subject), to provide users with information about the format or usability requirements of a document (hardware and software needed for readability), to record administrative data such as access rights and requirements, and to facilitate the sharing of documents between systems. Different disciplines have adopted different sets of metadata standards to accommodate their particular data needs. Two examples are the CSDGM standard for geospatial data and the DICOM standard for digital imaging in medicine. Efforts are also underway to develop more general standards, such as Dublin Core, which proposes a basic set of common elements that can be used across many different disciplines and document types.

Continued on next page
DSpace, Cont.

DSpace also hopes to foster a dynamic scholarly community by experimenting with community services and utilities such as class groups, interest groups, and review groups. Documents in DSpace could be linked to feedback and commentary from the community at large via a set of annotation services. Automatically alerting users of new submissions in their topic areas might be another way to build a community of scholars.

An important measure of the success of DSpace will be the extent to which the MIT community uses this repository. During the initial phase of the project we are gathering as much information as possible from members of the MIT community about how they would contribute to such a repository and how they would like to see it work. Margret Branschofsky, Faculty Liaison for DSpace, is reaching out to as many potential contributors as possible to encourage submissions of materials to DSpace and to identify lead user groups.

During the development period of the project, deposits to the repository will be accepted from a small number of lead user groups, while access to the documents will be limited to MIT and HP only. It is expected that DSpace will go live in September of 2001, accepting submissions from all of MIT with potential retrieval by users around the world. For ongoing information about the project, please check our Web site at: http://web.mit.edu/dspace.

Margret Branschofsky, (617) 253-1293, margretb@mit.edu
Eric Celeste, (617)253-8184, efc@mit.edu

Managing the Costs of Public Printing

Over the past few years, libraries everywhere have begun to install print management systems in order to control the cost to libraries of free, unlimited printing. That cost has grown enormously as the number of online resources has burgeoned. Sitting down at a computer today in the MIT Libraries, for example, gives one access to over 200 databases and more than 2,000 electronic journals, as well as the World Wide Web. Computer printers have simplified copying from online resources just as photocopiers simplified the old-fashioned task of taking handwritten notes from print materials. Library expenditures for paper, printers and print supplies have increased significantly as a result!

This situation has accelerated over the past couple of years, spurring the MIT Libraries to join in the move toward a print management system. Yes, we are talking about pay-for-print. In our environment of finite resources difficult choices must be made. We know that removing printers from libraries altogether is even less popular than charging for the prints. Alternatively, a quota system allowing students and faculty a limited amount of free printing would be a possible alternative, but is not yet technically feasible.

Following an extensive review of options, the charge system chosen by the MIT Libraries is one that we believe will be relatively convenient to use. It relies on the same debit card currently used for all the library copiers, the card already held by most regular library visitors. An attractive feature of this system is its ability to allow continued free printing from certain types of resources. For example, the Libraries will still allow free printing of citations from MIT's online catalog as a basic convenience to library patrons. It is also possible to e-mail many database and all catalog citations to one's own e-mail address from a public terminal in any of the Libraries. Another factor is the computer environment on the MIT campus in which printing is still readily available.

The new system was implemented this past summer at the Dewey Library, and will be introduced into the remainder of the libraries. We expect to have the system in place at all locations by the end of this calendar year. Signage will be posted to alert library patrons to impending changes.

Based on reports from other schools that have taken this step, we expect a dramatic drop in printing costs to the Libraries. Some of that will result from the greater care exercised by those who continue to print in the Libraries. Since a growing portion of the Libraries' resources are distributed online to the entire campus, there is little doubt that some users will choose to do their printing in offices, labs or clusters. We believe that by managing the costs of printing, we can direct more resources to the ongoing challenge of providing the MIT community with the best and most abundant online resources available.

Keith Glavash, Head, Document Services
(617) 253-5667, kglavash@mit.edu
The MIT Libraries' Campaign Steering Committee is building momentum for the Libraries' $20 million portion of the Institute's $1.5 billion capital campaign, which blasted off to a tremendous start during the 1999-2000 academic year.

The Libraries' portion of the campaign was relatively quiet in comparison to the overall effort. However, in the past few months the Libraries have been the recipient of a $215,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation (see DSpace article on page 4), as well as four individual gifts of $50,000 or more. In addition, Director of Libraries Ann Wolpert has made presentations about the Libraries' campaign-within-a-campaign to MIT's Office of Campaign Giving and Office of Corporate Relations, which will help find greater support for the Libraries.

During her presentations, Wolpert explained that the Libraries are a highly visible resource for the entire academic community and play a vital role in teaching and learning at MIT. She also described how a gift to the Libraries benefits the entire Institute by contributing to the quality of life for students, faculty, staff and alumni. The staffs of the OCG and OCR departments expressed particular excitement over two goals: the restoration to its original glory of the Building 10 Dome over Barker Engineering Library, and the redesign of the Hayden Building libraries to include student-centered spaces complete with comfortable reading areas and a café.

The Libraries' first Director of Development has just been hired to manage the Libraries' portion of the campaign. M.J. Miller comes to us, most recently, from Boston Ballet where she was Director of Development. Previously, Miller played a key role in the $34 million campaign at the Johns Hopkins University's Eisenhower Library. This new position will report directly to the Director of Libraries and will work closely with the central Resource Development departments to ensure the campaign is a success and that future fundraising efforts have a solid foundation to build upon.

The objective for the MIT Libraries is to raise a total of $20 million by June 30, 2004. The areas of need identified for the campaign include: $10 million to transform facilities into 21st century study, research, and teaching spaces; $8 million for endowments and pooled funds to build, process, and preserve collections; and $2 million for technologies to support teaching and research. Reaching the goal will undoubtedly be a challenge, but it is one that we are confident can be reached and surpassed through the combined efforts of staff and volunteers, and the continued and growing support of the Libraries' friends and patrons.

Support for the MIT Libraries' campaign can range from small annual gifts to major campaign pledges, which can provide a wide variety of outstanding naming opportunities. Please contact M.J. Miller directly if you would like to assist in the campaign, or if you would like further information about fundraising activities for the Libraries. She can be reached at: <mjmiller@mit.edu> or (617) 452-2123.

Steve Schaefer, Associate Director Foundation Relations & School Development Services (617) 253-6162, schaefer@mit.edu
200/1200 in 04/2000: Libraries Celebrate Rich Array of Electronic Resources Brought to the Campus

On April 5, 2000, the Libraries held an event to celebrate the 200th electronic database and the 1,200th electronic journal made available by the Libraries to the MIT community. At midday a terminal was set up in the Student Center lobby to show the e-resources, and in the afternoon librarians demonstrated the databases and e-journals in the Science Library. Over 75 students, researchers, staff, and faculty participated in the event, received mementos, and enjoyed refreshments. Brian Mazzeo, a first-year student, won the door prize, a gift certificate to the MIT Press Bookstore.

The 200th database to be made available by the MIT Libraries was Derwent Innovations Index, a new Web-based resource that allows searching of the worldwide patent literature. Coverage for many source patents begins in 1963; the database is updated weekly. Science Magazine, published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, was the 1,200th electronic journal. Issues from October 1995 to the present are available in full-text.

As the Libraries prepared for the celebration, Ellen Duranceau, Digital Resources Acquisitions Librarian, commented: "These 200 databases and 1,200 electronic journals in science and technology, the social sciences, management, architecture and planning, the humanities and the arts reflect a profound revolution in library service. With the power of the Web, we can now offer desktop access to key resources from anywhere on campus. We hope that everyone at MIT will take advantage of this flexible and efficient access, for it is safe to say that with so many titles available on all topics, we have something for everyone."

The array of e-resources continues to grow dramatically. As of November, the Libraries' Virtual Electronic Resource Access (Vera) at: http://libraries.mit.edu/vera listed 213 databases and 2,600 e-journals.

Ruth K. Seidman, MIT Libraries Communications Coordinator 617-253-5696, rks@mit.edu

New Databases Available through the Libraries

The following electronic databases were recently added to our collections. They are available through the Libraries' Web site: http://libraries.mit.edu/lists/db-web.html. Many databases can now be accessed from off-campus by members of the MIT community. Please see http://libraries.mit.edu/faq/remote.html for details.

**Engineering**
- Books24x7.com
- Derwent Innovations Index

**Science**
- Ideal (full text of Academic Press journals)
- Science Magazine Online
- ScienceDirect (Elsevier)
- SciFinder Scholar (Daytime access and substructure searching have been added to this existing product.)

**Social Science/Business/Management**
- Business & Industry
- Euromonitor Global Market Information Database
- Jupiter Communications Strategic Planning database
- ReferenceUSA (new format, was on CD-ROM)
- SDC Platinum databases (includes International and Domestic Mergers & Acquisitions, VentureXpert, and Global New Issues)
- Sports Business Research Network
- TableBase (business reference)

**Humanities/General Reference**
- A-V Online (educational audiovisual materials)
- Biography Resource Center/Marquis Who's Who
- Brown University Women Writers Project
- Ulrich's International Periodicals
- Women's Resources International

**Art**
- Accunet/AP Photo Archive
- ARTbibliographies Modern

Carol Zoppel, Editor
The Lewis Music Library participated in a Boston Library Consortium (BLC) cooperative collecting project this year in which several music libraries agreed to purchase the music scores of significant contemporary composers. Each library selected composers whose music will be collected on a comprehensive level and made available to other BLC members. Choosing just a few composers was not an easy task, but the Lewis Music Library was pleased to select Osvaldo Golijov, Libby Larsen, and Roger Reynolds as its three composers for the project. Under this formal agreement, the library will obtain all the printed music of these composers as it is published. This music will enrich the library’s collection while broadening the resources for teaching and research.

All three composers responded enthusiastically to the project. Libby Larsen’s publisher even sent the library a large box of her latest music. To increase their visibility in the library, each composer will be invited to MIT in order to tour the library and meet faculty, students, and staff. Performances of their music will be an important part of these visits as well.

Libby Larsen was the first composer invited to visit the library. Ms. Larsen is a prolific composer who writes in many genres including works for orchestra, chorus, opera, dance, theater, and chamber ensembles. Her music has been recorded on numerous labels including Angel/EMI, Koch International, Nonesuch, and Decca. Her honors include a 1994 Grammy Award for the CD, The Art of Arlene Auger (featuring Ms. Larsen’s “Sonnets from the Portuguese”) and the Academy Award in Music from the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2000. She has received commissions from the Minnesota Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony, Cleveland String Quartet, King’s Singers, and American Guild of Organists. She was the first woman to serve as a resident with a major orchestra.

On March 1, 2000, Ms. Larsen toured the Lewis Music Library and met with faculty, students, and library staff. At an informal luncheon, students and faculty had the opportunity to hear Ms. Larsen articulate her views on a variety of topics. She also took time to critique student compositions in a one-on-one setting. The visit ended with a performance in the Lewis Music Library of Ms. Larsen’s Fanfare for the Women by Rahul Sarathy ’03 (trumpet), two movements from Dancing Solo with Associate Professor Evan Ziporyn (clarinet), Cowboy Songs performed by Affiliated Artist Margaret O’Keefe (soprano) and Affiliated Artist Charles Shadle (piano); and Concert Choir Director William Cutter conducting the MIT Chamber Chorus in I Find My Feet Have Further Goals. During the concert, Ms. Larsen

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Catherine Friedman Receives Award

Catherine Friedman, Head of the Dewey Library for Management and Social Sciences, received the Gale Group Award for Excellence in Business Librarianship at the Annual Conference of the American Library Association (ALA), held in Chicago this past July. She received a citation and a $1,000 cash award.

The award is sponsored by the Business Reference and Services Section (BRASS) of the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) of ALA, along with the Gale Group, a major publisher of reference works. The prize, established in 1989, honors an individual who has made a significant contribution to business librarianship. Contributions may include authorship of a seminal book or articles, development of imaginative programs, teaching business librarianship in a particularly creative manner, or displaying strong leadership in a professional association. Ms. Friedman received this honor based on her publication Commodity Prices: A Sourcebook and Index Providing References to Wholesale, Retail, and Other Quotations for More Than 10,000 Agricultural, Commercial, Industrial, and Consumer Products, published by Gale Research, Inc. and her leadership in BRASS and RUSA, organizations for which she has served as president.

Carol Zoppel, Editor

Composer Libby Larsen Visits Lewis Music Library, Cont.

discussed each piece with engag-
ing details, which greatly en-
hanced the listening experience.

This visit allowed the MIT community to become better acquainted with Libby Larsen's music and her approach to composition. Pianist Charles Shadle observed, "Larsen pro-
vided a fascinating dialogue between composer and commu-
nity. This level of engagement is rare. It's the kind of event that should serve as a model for others." Although she spent most of her time discussing musical topics, Ms. Larsen also touched on the status of women in music.

Professor Margery Resnick, Director of Women's Studies remarked, "Libby Larsen's visit to MIT was thrilling. Her willingness to talk about the role that gender plays in our musical world allowed students to consider this issue in a serious and thoughtful way."

This BLC project highlights the proactive role that MIT Libraries take in working with departments to help enrich their programs. Roger Reynolds is scheduled to visit MIT in April 2001 when he will tour the Lewis Music Library, speak with faculty, students, and staff, and visit the Media Lab.

Peter Munstedt,
Lewis Music Librarian
(617) 253-5636, pmunsted@mit.edu
Sheelah Britt Retires

Please join us in wishing the best to Sheelah Britt, the Libraries’ Administrative Officer and Head of its Administrative Services Department, as she begins her new life in retirement, which commenced on July 31st.

Ms. Britt was with the MIT Libraries for over 32 years. She began as Senior Secretary in the Director’s Office, where she divided her time between secretarial duties and personnel/payroll work. She was promoted in 1970 to Administrative Assistant for Budget and Payroll, and again to Administrative Staff in 1973. In 1976 she became the Libraries’ Administrative Officer and in 1984 was made the Head of the Administrative Services Department. In these last two positions she was responsible for budget administration, facilities, personnel, mail and delivery services, accounting, and purchasing. Ms. Britt is also the current Vice Chair of the Board of Directors for the MIT Federal Credit Union, a position she will maintain in retirement.

Ann Wolpert, Director of Libraries, said, “Sheelah has excelled at many assignments and has ably shepherded the Libraries’ administrative areas through many changes.” At a retirement party in her honor, Ms. Britt’s colleagues at the Libraries noted with appreciation her integrity, fairness, sense of humor, her ability to find ways to get things done in the most challenging situations, and her support in making possible the ongoing work and progress of all the units of the MIT Libraries. For all of the above reasons and more, her presence at the Libraries will be missed.

Ms. Britt holds a Master of Library Science degree from Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Ruth K. Seidman, MIT Libraries Communications Coordinator
617-253-5686, rks@mit.edu

Poping Lin Wins Award

Poping Lin, Science Library’s former Assistant Librarian for Core Information Competencies, has won the 2000 American Society for Engineering Education, Engineering Libraries Division, Best Paper Award. The title of her award-winning article was Core Information Competencies Redefined: A Study of the Information Education of Engineers. In 1997/1998 she was selected as one of 21 minority librarians nationwide to participate in the Leadership and Career Development Program sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries and the Department of Education. Her project for that program also focused on information competencies for engineers. Ms. Lin was in her position at the Libraries from 1997 through September, 2000. She is now an Instruction Librarian at Harvard Business School’s Baker Library. She sends her sincere thanks to the MIT Libraries and its staff for all the support they gave her while she was working on her article.

Carol Zoppel, Editor
New Librarian Staff and Promotions

The Libraries' staff continues to be enriched with talented new people and the advancement of proven staff to positions of greater responsibility. Over the past several months, four positions have been filled and one promotion has been made.

After a period of lean staffing, the Institute Archives is pleased to announce the promotion of Elizabeth Andrews from Reference Archivist to Associate Head Archivist and Records Manager, the arrival of Mary Eleanor (Nora) Murphy to fill the position vacated by Ms. Andrews, and Ewa Maria Basinska as Assistant Archivist for Processing and Records Management.

Elizabeth Andrews served as the Institute Archives and Special Collections Department's Reference Archivist from 1990 to October 1999 when she was promoted to Associate Head Archivist and Records Manager.

Before coming to MIT, Ms. Andrews worked in both the reference and collections areas of the Massachusetts State Archives. While there, she was involved in the groundbreaking RLIN Government Records Project. Prior to this, she worked as Assistant Librarian, Health Sciences, for the New England College of Optometry. Ms. Andrews is active in the archival community where she has served on numerous committees for the New England Archivists and the Society of American Archivists (SAA). She is a member of the steering committee of the SAA's Science, Technology, and Health Care Roundtable.

Ms. Andrews holds a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, an M.L.S. from Simmons College, and an M.A. in History/Archival Methods from the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

Ewa Maria Basinska's most recent position before joining the Libraries' staff was as an Assistant Librarian at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (Harvard College Observatory). She also held an earlier position at MIT as an archival assistant at the Lincoln Laboratory Archives. In her former career as a research physicist, she worked at several universities and colleges including the University of Amsterdam, MIT, Max-Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics, the Research Center at Regis College, and the Center for Space Physics at Boston University.

Ms. Basinska holds an M.S. in Physics summa cum laude and a Ph.D. in Physics from Nicholas Copernicus University in Torun, Poland. She also earned an M.S. in Library/Information Science, with a concentration in Archives Management, from Simmons College.

Before coming to MIT, Nora Murphy served for 13 years as Diocesan Archivist at the Diocesan Library and Archives, Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. Earlier she worked in various capacities and eventually as Director of Archives and Records Preservation, Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. She has also held archival, curatorial, and research assistant positions at the John F. Kennedy Library; Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College; the Archives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and the

Continued on next page
New Librarian Staff, Cont.

Massachusetts Superior Court, Mass. Judicial Records Committee.

Ms. Murphy holds a B.A. in History *cum laude* from Boston College and an M.A. in History / Archival Methods from the University of Massachusetts, Boston. She is active in relevant professional organizations and is the author of several articles and reports.

**Margaret Bartley** is Dewey Library’s new Instruction Coordinator and Subject Specialist in Economics. She comes to us from Wellesley College where she served as Reference and Instruction Librarian, and earlier as Collection Librarian for economics, political science, sociology, anthropology and Japanese studies. She has also held positions as a librarian at Northeastern University and the Boston Architectural Center. In addition to her work in libraries, Ms. Bartley served as an Editorial Assistant for *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*. She is active in professional associations and has published in library journals.

Ms. Bartley received her B.A. in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts, Boston *magna cum laude*, her M.L.S. from Simmons College, and an M.A. in Anthropology from Brandeis University.

**Tracy Gabridge**, Barker Engineering Library’s new Assistant Librarian for Civil Engineering, is an MIT alumna (Course 6) who has returned to the Institute. Ms. Gabridge is a recent graduate of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Master’s program in Library Science, where she also worked as a Library Graduate Assistant in the Grainger Engineering Library. Her earlier experience includes several responsible positions in engineering and management with Lucent Technologies and Bell Laboratories, AT&T. While a student at MIT, Ms. Gabridge worked in the Aeronautics & Astronautics Library.

In addition to her B.S. in Electrical Engineering from MIT, and M.S. in Library Science mentioned above, Ms. Gabridge holds an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Columbia University and participated in the International Managers Program at the Ashridge Management College, Beckhamsted, U.K. She is active in professional organizations and received several honors and awards while working in private industry.

Please join us in welcoming these talented individuals to their new positions in the MIT Libraries.

*Carol Zoppel, Editor*

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Survey of Faculty Library Use

In November 1999, the Libraries sent a survey (also available on the Web) to all tenured and tenure-track faculty at MIT. The purpose of the survey was three-fold:

- to learn more about how MIT faculty use the Libraries;
- to determine the level of faculty satisfaction with library resources and services;
- to gather suggestions for improvements and ideas for new services.

Thanks to a 27% response rate, a statistically viable dataset was obtained. Analysis of the data has furnished a great deal of constructive information. Many respondents also provided comments which yielded some of the most valuable information.

Below is a summary of the major findings from an analysis of the quantitative survey data.

**Time at MIT**

Of the respondents, 147 (58%) had been at MIT for over 10 years, and another 35 (14%) had been here for between 6 and 10 years.

**Collections and Barton** (online catalog)

In general, the Libraries’ collections met faculty needs. Eighty percent of respondents stated that the collections always or frequently met their needs.

Most of the Libraries’ major collections and the Barton catalog were considered by faculty to be more critical to their teaching than to their research (70%).

The Web was the preferred interface for Barton (89%) and other databases (73%). For journals, there was no clear preference between print and electronic formats.

**Reference Service**

Most respondents used the Libraries’ reference services. Types of reference services were used in the following ways:

- Traditional reference desk (74%)
- Electronic Reference (69%)
- Research consultations (13%)
Instruction
Respondents used the following orientation and instruction services themselves:

- Workshops (2%)
- Online tutorials (7%)
- Orientations (7%)
- One-on-one meeting with a subject librarian (33%)
- None (52%)

Respondents recommended or arranged for the following orientation and instruction services for their students:

- Workshops (1.5%)
- Online tutorials (2.3%)
- Library tours (4.3%)
- Librarian created Web course pages (7.5%)
- In-class instruction by a librarian (16.5%)
- None (61%)

Circulation Services
Preferred loan periods for books were:
- 4 weeks (59%)
- 1 semester (32%)
- 1 year (.5%)
- Never (0)

Preferred loan periods for journals were:
- Never (24%)
- 1 day (24%)
- 3 days (18%)
- 1 week (18%)
- 2 hours (15%)

On-site Use of Libraries
More than 80% of the respondents came to the library more than once a semester, and 50% came once a week or more.

- Faculty visits to the library:
  - Once a week (32%)
  - Once a month (29%)
  - Two or more times a week (17%)
  - Once a semester (14%)
  - Once a year or less (.5%)

- Sent assistant to the library:
  - Once a week (24%)
  - Once a month (23%)
  - Once a year or less (14%)
  - Once a semester (11%)
  - Two or more times a week (9%)

Desired Library Services
Respondents expressed interest in the delivery of services to their offices and desktops:

- Delivery of journal articles (85%)
- Delivery of books (42%)
- Circulation self-services (renewals, etc.) (61%)
- Online reference (33%)
- In-office instruction or consultation with a librarian (10%)

The Libraries wish to thank all who participated in the survey for their time and thoughts. Various groups within the Libraries have begun to discuss the data and are actively exploring ways in which positive action can be taken to further adjust library services to faculty needs.

If you have additional ideas you would like to share with the Libraries, please e-mail the Libraries’ Faculty User Group at: <facultyusers@mit.edu>. More detailed information on the survey results can be found on the Web at:

http://macfadden.mit.edu:9500/ usergroups/faculty/survey

Theresa Tobin, Humanities Librarian
(617) 253-5674, tat@mit.edu

Carol Zoppel, Editor

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Edited and designed by Carol Zoppel.

Correspondence should be addressed to:

The Director of Libraries,
Room 145-216
MIT
77 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139-4307

or sent by e-mail to:
Shana Gass,
Senior Office Assistant
shanag@mit.edu
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For 130 years, MIT has maintained a deep commitment to providing students and faculty with the information resources and tools so necessary to the work of the Institute. If research and learning resources were to become unaffordable, or inadequate, the risk to the Institute's fundamental excellence is significant.

Those who went before us at the Institute insured the availability of the unique and wonderful library resources we take for granted today. The students, researchers, and faculty of today and tomorrow must be equally well supported. The MIT Libraries gratefully acknowledge and deeply appreciate the generosity of all its donors to that end.

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